



**CARIBOU-TARGHEE NATIONAL FOREST  
PALISADES RANGER DISTRICT  
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO**

**2013**

**ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS  
CONANT VALLEY C&H ALLOTMENT**

**CONTACT US PRIOR TO STOCKING THE ALLOTMENT**

Conant Valley Ranch is permitted 100 cow/calf pairs. You are authorized to graze from June 15 to August 17 for the 2013 season. This grazing season includes the Forest Service and BLM portions of the allotment.

All cattle must be owned by Conant Valley Ranch and branded with your registered brand that is on file at the district office.

The following brand is permitted on the allotment:

Right Shoulder

The Forest Service will bill you for 46 days. The BLM is billing you for the use of the BLM portion of the allotment. The BLM permit refers to this as the North Pasture and bills you for 60 AUMs. These two bills will cover the grazing for the authorized season.

**Grazing Schedule**

The grazing schedule for the 2013 season is:

Sequence

Graze 1st

Units

**North Unit**

Forest Service and  
BLM North Pasture

Graze 2nd

**South Unit**

Forest Service

Continue the daily inspection of cattle while on the allotment to ensure the protection of the riparian improvements in Prichard Creek. Keeping cattle out of the Pritchard Creek riparian area will aid in the recovery of the old reservoir site. Inform the district range staff if any cattle get into the riparian area.

**Allotment Management**

The water source for solar pump system needs to be reset. I have contacted our hydrologist and will be coordinating this replacement through him.

PROPER USE CRITERIA

These utilization guidelines apply to native and desirable nonnative vegetation as recorded at the end of the grazing period.

The following rates for forage utilization apply to the total amount of forage utilized. The use rates include wildlife grazing as well as domestic livestock. Once proper use of the forage is met the cattle will be moved to the next unit or off of the allotment.

Upland Forage Utilization

<u>Vegetation type</u>	<u>Percent Utilization</u>
Herbaceous vegetation including grasses	55%
Shrubs	35%

Herding

Cattle will be moved in a timely fashion so the prescribed use rates are not exceeded. These moves need to start before proper use is met. The cattle that are content to graze the uplands and are on good feed will be moved last. When proper use is met all of the cattle need to be removed from the unit, even those that are staying in the uplands. The unit should be checked to insure all cattle have been moved to the next unit. Round-up in the fall should start early enough so that all of the cattle may be off the allotment at the end of your permitted season.

Salting

Salt will be used as a tool to improve livestock distribution. No salt will be placed within ¼ mile of water, or as far from water as practical. Also salt will not be placed next to roadways or forest system trails. Utilize areas where salt grounds will create the least impact on the land. Move salt blocks often or split the blocks in half so to lighten the impact on any one location. Under no circumstance place more than one salt block at one location. Manage your salting late in the season so as little salt as possible is left after the cattle leave the allotment.

Disposal of Dead Livestock

Dead livestock need to be moved at least 100 feet from system roads and trails, and water sources.

### Range Improvements

All range improvements must be maintained and in operation prior to cattle entering the unit. You are responsible for the maintenance of the storage tank and trough portion of the solar pump system. We will continue to work together to maintain the Solar pump portion of this system.

### Allotment Monitoring

During management of the allotment this summer we would like you to document dates and livestock numbers as you enter and exit the various units. Also stubble height should be recorded as the livestock leave the units and general remarks pertaining to management of the unit.

## **COORDINATION & COOPERATION**

### Motorized Access

The Palisades Ranger District is closed to cross country motorized travel. As a grazing permittee you may be issued a motorized travel permit to allow you to travel cross country by motor vehicle to maintain range improvements (fences and water developments). Have the permit in your possession when traveling cross-country. This permit is good for no more than two trips per week.

### Noxious Weeds

The Palisades Ranger District will again have a crew treating weeds on the District this summer. Continue to look for new weed infestations on your allotment.

In order to treat weeds on National Forest we would like access across your ranch to the allotment. The weed crew will contact you to arrange access.

### Wolf Management

You need to comply with the most current rules concerning wolf management. To receive the latest information on wolf management you can contact the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Any problems with wolves will be reported to Wildlife Services as well as Palisades Ranger District as soon as possible.

### Fire

All wildfires on the allotment will be evaluated and the appropriate management actions will be taken. Some wildfires may be managed to improve forest and ecosystem health. You will be notified if fires are being managed for resource benefits near your allotment.

## **INFORMATION**

In addition to this grazing plan the folder contains: An allotment map, a page of general grazing instructions, information and contact numbers relating to predator depredations and an Actual Use Record. Keep the record current with allotment information and return it to us at the end of the grazing season.

